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dren's leagues of good citizenship." Our club women help to establish and conduct all of these, and it would be impossible to estimate the good thus accomplished, in the development of character, and the training of the future citizen.

After all, nothing will repay us so much as the protection, care and training of our children, who are to take upon their shoulders the government of our country, after we have passed hence, and this part of the work of a civic committee I especially commend to your careful and prayerful consideration. Try to shield the children morally by preventing coarse, vulgar and impure things being brought to their notice—either through the eyes or the ears. It is not only the children of our own immediate families who require to be so protected, but those of our poorer neighbor, in the neglected back street or alley. They, also, must be kept pure and trained aright, or they may some time become centers for evil in the community.

This brief review of altruistic work, done by club women throughout this country, has been perforce a hasty one; but, surely the record is surprising. Let us "thank God and take courage," for He has brought many wonderful things to pass through our instrumentality; and yet, so far, we are but on the threshold of the great things we are to accomplish. "Let us, then, not be weary in well doing, for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not."

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### REPORT OF PURE FOOD COMMITTEE.

(Presented at the Biennial Meeting of the General Federation of Women's Clubs at St. Paul, June, 1906, by Mrs. Walter McNab Miller, Chairman, Columbia, Mo.)

The Pure Food Committee in making its first bow in public feels, on the one hand, a natural hesitation in speaking of what has been accomplished; but, on the other hand, its very youth makes it want to tell every single thing that it has done. Called into existence less than two years ago to help in the fight for a Federal law to protect the consumer in one State from food improperly labeled or adulterated and shipped into it from another State, it has far outgrown this its chrysalis stage, and is using its new found wings to touch at all points where pure food issues are at stake. It has turned its attention not only to legislative details, but to milk and water supply, meat and market inspection, system of uniform labeling, food standards, and has been fairly appalled at the work it has found crying to be done.

To ascertain conditions in various States and to secure co-operation from the clubs and State officials, this committee has written some 2,000 letters, sent circulars to every State in the Union, and tried by personal letters, talks, exhibits, and distribution of literature, to arouse interest in the cause. It has petitioned and memorialized the President, the Secretary of Agriculture, the Senate and the House, has kept up an incessant news-

paper warfare, usually through friendly editors, rather than over its own signature, and has worked in season and out of season to waken the public conscience to the ethical questions involved in this fight for the honest label.

That our efforts have not been entirely in vain, witness the following facts: (1) Twenty-five States have done work in pure food during the past year and five others are to take it up next year. (2) The Pure Food Bill this last winter, for the first time passed the Senate. (3) The Department of Agriculture, in response to a demand created by this committee, has just published an exceptionally fine Bulletin for housekeepers on "Some Forms of Food Adulteration," a few copies of which we have here and additional numbers of which can be obtained from the Superintendent of Public Documents.

There has also been published for our special use a report by the Secretary of the Interstate Pure Food Commission, which can be obtained by signing a list which can be found in the Exhibit, and letters of appreciation of the work of the Federation have been received from all sides.

An extract from one written by Dr. Wiley is typical, and is as follows:

"I think the Women's Clubs of this country have done a great work in whatever they have undertaken towards the betterment of the conditions of society. There is something wonderful in the power which organized effort can develop, and the women of this country through organized effort in my opinion can secure any good thing which they demand. Their work in behalf of pure food legislation, both in the States and in the National Congress, has been wonderfully effective.

"I sincerely hope that the organization of women of this country for all purposes of the public good may be perfected and extended, as thereby the ethical principles which they represent can be more effectually and more speedily enforced throughout the whole land."

Did time and space not forbid, many tributes of similar import could be given, showing the cordial appreciation of the work done by the women in this pure food campaign, by men who are leading in the fight for commercial honesty.

From most of the letters to state presidents and secretaries came cordial and full responses, and from these letters the following facts and suggestions have been collected:

Arizona says: "Our produce comes from such a distance that the preservatives used frequently render food unfit for use. We are working hard for a pure food law in this territory, but progress seems slow."

Arkansas, evidently, is all right, for several letters receive no response.

In Alabama, no attempt has been made to enforce the food laws of the State.

California has a good law, but, save in the matter of dairy produce, no attempt has been made to enforce the laws of the State until very recently.

Colorado, with its efficient resident member of the general Pure Food Committee, is doing fine educational work, which will certainly result in a good law at the next Legislature.

Connecticut says: "The moral effect of our law has been great. Public sentiment has been awakened by our work, which is accessible through our printed reports; the Federation of Women's Clubs is agitating the subject all over the State on the side of the consumer, and the outlook is better than ever before for the suppression of the sale of adulterated food."

In Delaware, the inspection seems to be indeed a bread and butter question, as the law provides only for these two things.

Florida's "Pure Food Law has no way of enforcing a penalty, so of course it is not enforced. The club women are taking up the subject."

Georgia never responded to inquiries, but has a law regulating liquors and flour.

Idaho says: "We are doing a great work in the State toward the prohibition of the sale of adulterated foods. The great drawback is that the Commission has such a multiplicity of duties that it has little time to give to the food question."

Illinois has a good law and a Food Commissioner whose duty it is to enforce all laws relating to the subject, but some of the worst interstate offenders in mis-branding and adulteration are in Chicago.

Indiana has a State Laboratory of Hygiene, under control of the State Board of Health, with an appropriation of \$5000 for equipment and \$10,000 for maintenance. "The laboratory is used in making analyses of foods and drugs, making sanitary and pathological examinations, etc., and in all ways aids in the enforcement of health laws," an arrangement which seems to be ideal.

Iowa's last Legislature passed a good food law and her women helped in the good cause.

Kansas has no general food law. The last Legislature passed a law making it the duty of the State University and State Agricultural College to make analyses of foods and beverages upon request of the Board of Health, but no appropriation was made, and the work of these institutions is already too heavy to make such additional duties possible.

Kentucky has a fine law, administered by the State Experiment Station in the most fearless manner. They complain, however, of the lack of a Federal Law, as Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Tennessee, West Virginia and other states impose adulterations upon local dealers and are beyond the jurisdiction of State Courts. The Pure Food Committee is under great obligations to the Kentucky Station for helping it in its work.

Louisiana never responded, but the State Board of Health has charge in a general way of health conditions.

Maine has a new law, administered by the Agricultural Experiment Station.

Maryland has a State Board of Health charged with the enforcement of certain food laws, but the appropriation is so small that it is impossible to cover the ground, even in the cities of the State. Her club women are doing splendid work, and the articles on "Safe Foods and How to Get Them," by Mrs. Abel of Baltimore are most scientific and helpful.

Massachusetts was the first State to enforce laws relative to purity of

foods, and has a most efficient State Board of Health and State Dairy Bureau. There have been forty-two pure food meetings in Massachusetts clubs in six months, due to the activity of the pure food member from that State, and the strong pressure brought to bear on Congress from the physicians of Boston and New York in favor of the Heyburn Bill was exerted through her influence.

Michigan has its food laws administered by the State Dairy and Food Commissioner. "The dairy laws are most efficient; the food laws less effective, though the co-operation of honest manufacturers and dealers and the enthusiastic support of the clubs are decreasing the adulterated products and another year will see great gains."

Minnesota has a new code which has just gone into effect and promises to be most effective. Judging by the courtesy, ability, and generosity shown our Pure Food Committee by the State officials and by the local Pure Food Committee, Minnesota has set a pace which it will be difficult for the other states to follow.

Mississippi has no adequate laws, and not enough interest in the matter to send a response to inquiries.

Missouri "begs to be excused, please, for being on the black list, but she had to be 'shown,' and so far has been able to see no farther than that her dairying industries needed protection. Another Legislature convenes next winter, and our women are at work and expect to succeed."

Montana has milk and meat inspectors in certain counties, but no officer specially charged with the enforcement of the food laws of the State. Her State President writes: "The Pure Food Laws are better enforced in Butte than elsewhere."

Nebraska sends the following: "Our law is so narrow that we cannot reach the majority of adulterations, but we have analyzed many products and published the results, in the hope that the people of the State will demand a broader law of our next Legislature." The State has a wide-awake committee and we expect to hear of a victory for pure food at our next biennial.

Nevada has no provision for enforcing such laws as she has.

New Hampshire's food laws are well administered by the State Board of Health.

New Jersey's food laws are administered by the State Board of Health, but very imperfectly. If the officials were half as active and interested as the member of the Pure Food Committee from that State, New Jersey would be our model. She has worked untiringly in the cause, and has done a great deal to arouse interest in the good work through letters, talks, and newspaper articles.

New Mexico has no provision for enforcing the food laws; in fact, considers violations of the law merely misdemeanors.

New York has its food laws administered by the State Department of Agriculture, but when a Legislature could defeat such a bill as the one introduced at its last session for the protection of its citizens against patent medicines, we think there is need of an arousing of the public conscience.

North Carolina has a fairly satisfactory law, which the State Department of Agriculture is attempting to enforce, but the State Board of Health of South Carolina has no appropriation, and makes no attempt to regulate the sale of adulterated foods.

North and South Dakota have admirable laws, rigidly enforced. As we have with us a representative official from that region we shall hear all about these laws. The first bill introduced into the South Dakota Legislature by the women's clubs was for meat inspection and was introduced by a woman, Mrs. Stutenroch.

Ohio, with a good State food law, has been greatly hampered by the lack of a National law.

In Oklahoma and Indian Territory the people have not even as much protection along this line as cattle have, but unless all signs fail, they will have before long. So far as the committee has heard, Oklahoma is the banner State for the number of letters and petitions favoring a National Pure Food Law, having sent out 1,800.

Oregon has a good new law, whose efficiency has not yet been tried; but if the club women of Portland are fair representatives of the spirit of her citizens, we may expect great results, for we have no more interesting exhibition of civic usefulness than was shown by their demanding and getting market inspection a year ago.

Pennsylvania has a good law, enforced by a fearless Dairy and Food Commission.

Rhode Island not having responded, we find from the Digest of the Food Laws, published by the United States Department of Agriculture, that no provision is made for the enforcement of the food laws, except where local inspectors may have power to act.

In Tennessee, the State Board of Health is authorized to establish a chemical and biological laboratory and to employ expert assistants to enforce the food laws of the State; but owing to lack of appropriations the law cannot be enforced.

In Texas much the same conditions obtain, save that the sum of \$2,000 is allowed the Health Officer by the law. Here again we find that the Legislature (shall we say) forgot to include this item in the appropriation bills, so no real work can be done. A good general food law *failed* in the last Legislature, but a pure food bill for stock passed without question.

Utah has good laws most excellently administered, and one unusual feature, showing the general interest in food control, deserves especial mention. There is in Utah an Association of Merchants and Manufacturers and a number of commercial clubs which employ a chemist to analyze the output of all canning factories in the State, thus insuring purity in the home products. This is a new venture in civic work and should commend itself to every State wishing to establish a high record for commercial honesty.

Vermont has sent no response to inquiries, but, consulting the United States Bulletin, we find that general food laws were enacted by the last meeting of the Legislature. They are to be enforced by the State Board

of Health, whose meager appropriation prevents proper collection of samples to be analyzed, and so defeats the purpose of the law.

Virginia has a new law, administered by the State Department of Agriculture, which is "having an excellent effect in regard to labeling and branding."

Washington has a good law and a Commissioner who says: "If the people want to buy dirt, they can; but they will not be cheated into doing it under false colors."

West Virginia has no provision for enforcing such laws as are on the statute books, but we learn that the public is aroused to the importance of the question and the recent establishment of milk inspection in Wheeling is a step in the right direction.

Wisconsin has a good law and a wide-awake Dairy and Food Commission.

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### CHILD LABOR—A NATIONAL DISGRACE.

This topic was presented at the biennial meeting of the General Federation of Women's Clubs at St. Paul, June, 1906, by Dr. Samuel McCune Lindsay of the University of Pennsylvania, and Secretary of the National Child Labor Committee, also ex-Commissioner of Education in Porto Rico, who spoke in part as follows:

"If there is any natural or necessary division of labor in the public work of men and women certainly the guardianship of the interests of children will appeal most strongly to women. It may be man's fault rather than woman's that our modern industrial system has laid so heavy a hand on the child. Our mines and coal breakers, our cotton mills and factories, our glass houses, silk mills, messenger and delivery service, street trades and other hazardous occupations for young children have already enlisted one in every twenty-two children throughout the entire country, and if we include all wage-earning child workers, more than one in every six children of the country, or over two million, must be counted. We cannot boast of American opportunities or do ought but hang our heads in shame when we admit these facts.

"We are all responsible, men and women alike, for this horrible condition of affairs. Every section of the country is guilty, every industry is a conspirator in these wrongs done to innocent children. There is a sovereign remedy—*publicity*. The National Committee was organized as a representative body of men and women to ascertain and present the facts. We have done this as best we can with the resources of a private society and we will continue to do it. We now call on you as the organized force of woman's influence in this country, we call on organized labor, on the churches representing the organized religious forces, and finally we call on the Federal Government to assume the responsibility for these wrongs to childhood and to set about forthwith to right them, to make restitution four-fold. Publicity on a national scale is the sovereign remedy. What has it not done in